

arch

Outputs the processor architecture.

```
$ arch
```

```
i686
```

cat

Outputs the contents of a file.

```
$ cat lorem.txt
```

cd

Change the working directory.

```
$ cd /bin
```

cp

Copies a file.

```
$ cp lorem.txt copy_of_lorem.txt
```

date

Outputs the current date and time.

```
$ date
```

```
Sat Mar 3 12:07:09 GMT 2007
```

df

Reports the amount of disk space used and available on filesystems.

```
$ df
```

```
Filesystem 1K-blocks Used Available Use% Mounted on<br>  
/dev/simfs 39845888 218048 39627840 1% /
```

dir

List directory contents.

```
$ dir
```

```
copy_of_lorem.txt lorem.txt moo.txt www
```

du Estimate file space usage.

```
$ du -h /bin
```

```
7.8M /bin
```

echo

Display a line of text.

```
$ echo foobar
```

```
foobar
```

exit

Cause the shell to exit.

```
$ exit
```

free

Display amount of free and used memory in the system.

```
$ free
```

```
total used free shared buffers cached
```

```
Mem: 8299892 8287708 12184 0 2641772 1731236
```

```
Low: 3581300 3572764 8536
```

```
High: 4718592 4714944 3648
```

```
-/+ buffers/cache: 3914700 4385192
```

```
Swap: 8193140 2335664 5857476
```

headOutput the first part of files.

```
$ head -2 lorem.txt
```

```
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod  
tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim
```

hostname

Outputs the machines hostname on the network.

```
$ hostname
```

```
anapnea.net
```

id

Outputs user id, group id, and groups of your account.

```
$ id
```

```
uid=1478(smallfoot) gid=100(users) groups=35(games),100(users)
```

lastShow listing of last logged in users.

```
$ last -n 3
```

```
alice pts/6 192.0.34.166 Fri May 18 16:17 still logged in  
bob pts/2 64.233.183.103 Fri May 18 16:17 still logged in  
clare pts/6 72.5.124.61 Fri May 18 15:54 - 15:55 (00:01)
```

lognamePrint user's login name.

```
$ logname
```

```
smallfoot
```

ls

List directory contents.

```
$ ls
```

```
copy_of_lorem.txt lorem.txt moo.txt www
```

manOpens the manual page for a software or function.

```
$ man bash
```

The man pages are the first place to go when you're looking for help. The [man command gives access to your computer's online documentation](#) (manuals... get it?). If you need to see additional arguments for uname, for instance, open a terminal and type man uname. The man page will give you a basic run down on how to use the command, what package it is bundled with, and sometimes cross-references similar commands that may be useful.

mkdirMakes a directory.

```
$ mkdir foobar
```

mv

Moves a file.

```
$ mv lorem.txt ipsum.txt
```

pidof

Find the process ID of a running program.

```
$ pidof fetchmail
```

```
22392
```

ping

Pings a host.

```
$ ping -c 2 127.0.0.1
```

```
PING 127.0.0.1 (127.0.0.1) 56(84) bytes of data.
```

```
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.048 ms
```

```
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.052 ms
```

```
— 127.0.0.1 ping statistics —
```

```
2 packets transmitted, 2 received, 0% packet loss, time 999ms
```

```
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.048/0.050/0.052/0.002 ms
```

ps

Outputs running processes.

```
$ ps
```

```
PID TTY TIME CMD
21542 pts/12 00:00:00 bash
27706 pts/12 00:00:00 ps
```

ps tree

Display a tree of processes.

```
$ ps tree
```

```
init+-2*[BitchX]
|-3*[bash—sleep]
|-fetchmail
|-screen-+-bash—irssi
| `-bash—ctorrent
|-screen-+-bash—lisp.run
| |-bash—vi
| |-2*[bash]
| `-bash—lynx
|-2*[screen—bash—irssi]
|-screen—irssi
|-screen—bash
|-screen-+-bash
| `-irssi
|-skjerm—irssi
|-sshd-+-5*[sshd—sshd—bash—irssi]
| |-8*[sshd—sshd—bash]
| |-sshd—sshd—bash—screen
| |-sshd—sshd
| `-sshd—sshd—bash—ps tree
`-syslog-ng
```

pwd

Outputs the name of current working directory.

```
$ pwd
```

```
/home/smallfoot
```

rm

Removes a file or directory.

```
$ rm lorem.txt
```

rmdir

Removes a directory.

```
$ rmdir foobar
```

size

List section sizes and total size.

```
$ size /bin/bash
```

```
text data bss dec hex filename
621233 22712 19176 663121 a1e51 /bin/bash
```

stat

Outputs file status.

```
$ stat lorem.txt
```

```
File: `lorem.txt'
Size: 453 Blocks: 8 IO Block: 4096 regular file
Device: 77h/119d Inode: 27312217 Links: 1
Access: (0644/-rw-r--r-) Uid: ( 1478/smallfoot) Gid: ( 100/ users)
Access: 2007-03-03 12:24:39.000000000 +0000
Modify: 2007-03-03 12:24:39.000000000 +0000
Change: 2007-03-03 12:24:39.000000000 +0000
```

tailOutput the last part of files.

```
$ tail -2 lorem.txt
```

```
occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt
mollit anim id est laborum.
```

touchChange a file's access and modification timestamps. If file does not exist, create it.

```
$ touch lorem.txt
```

uptimeOutputs the system uptime.

```
$ uptime
```

```
14:50:26 up 7 days, 17:52, 18 users, load average: 0.08, 0.02, 0.01
```

wShow who is logged on and what they are doing.

```
$ w
```

```
12:14:30 up 5 days, 15:16, 19 users, load average: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00
USER TTY LOGIN@ IDLE JCPU PCPU WHAT
charlie pts/0 Fri21 3:26m 2.52s 2.52s irssi
alice pts/2 Wed17 30:21m 0.00s 0.00s -bash
emma pts/4 11:37 36:57 0.00s 0.00s -bash
frank pts/5 11:48 11:03 0.00s 0.00s -bash
smallfoo pts/12 12:01 0.00s 0.04s 0.01s w
```

wcCounts lines in a file.

```
$ wc -l lorem.txt
```

```
7 lorem.txt
```

whatis

Search the whatis database for complete words.

```
$ whatis bash
```

```
bash (1) - GNU Bourne-Again SHell
```

```
bash [builtins] (1) - bash built-in commands, see bash(1)
```

who

Outputs who is currently logged into the system.

```
$ who
```

```
charlie pts/0 Mar 2 21:37 (xtreme-11-65.acme.com)
```

```
alice pts/2 Feb 28 17:48 (147.21.16.3)
```

```
emma pts/4 Mar 3 11:37 (32.84-48-181.uac.com)
```

```
frank pts/5 Mar 3 11:48 (port-212-202-233-2.foobar.org)
```

```
smallfoot pts/12 Mar 3 12:01 (c-12776f4.cust.example.net)
```

whereis

Locate the binary, source, and manual page files for a command.

```
$ whereis bash
```

```
bash: /bin/bash /etc/bash /usr/share/man/man1/bash.1.gz
```

whoami

Outputs your username / the name of your account.

```
$ whoami
```

```
username
```